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A LETTER FROM GOV. JOHN WINTHROP,

RESPECTING THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES FOR OBTAINING

THE CONNECTICUT CHARTER.

[The publishing committee are indebted to Hon. George Bancroft, for a copy of the following letter, from the original formerly in the possession of the late Isaac P. Davis, Esq., of Boston. It was labelled, "John Winthrop to Samuel Wyllys," but probably was addressed to Capt. John Talcott, treasurer of the Colony.]

LONDON, *May* 13, 1662.

SIR:

I must referr to this bearer Mr. Woolcott to lett you know, what I might certify more at large concerning the full issue of the charter for our colony of Connecticutt which hath now newly passed the great seale,* and is as full and large for bounds and priviledges as could be desired, so as I hope all will be well satisfied about the charge that has been necessary for the affecting and prosecuting a business of such consequence, which is to the full settlement of the Colony for them and their posterity. I have now also settled a way for the payment of those monies which have been here expended, having agreed with some merchants who have supplied me with monies here to be paid the same there in corn, for which besides bills upon yourself, which will not be sent till their ship arrives there with you for the taking in the corn. Both myselfe and my son stand engaged for the timely and punctual performance of the agreement, which is this, that there shall be

* "This day, May 10th, in the afternoon, the Patent for Connecticut was sealed." MS. note by Gov. Winthrop, in an almanac for 1662; (communicated by Charles Deane, Esq.) The charter bears date, April 23.

delivered to them at New London, before the last of November next, aboard their ship which they shall send for it, two thousand bushels of wheat and twelve hundred bushels of peas. If the ship does not arrive so early in November that it may be put aboard out of the vessels that carry it down, you and your son are to help carry aboard so much as shall be landed; (you will chamber it.) I desire you to take such order about the providing of it, that it may be thrashed in due time and so dried that it may be made merchantable, and that it may be transported and lie ready at New London for the ship that will be sent, which otherwise will be a great damage and discredit to us all. Not else at present but my loving remembrance to yourself and Mrs. Talcot, with your mother, and all our neighbors and friends, Mr. John Allin, and Sergeant Spenser, whom I desire you to certify that we can yet do nothing about his business.

If there be not the full proportion of peas, there is liberty to make it up in wheat, at one and sixpence the bushel. The peas are to be at two shillings sixpence: the wheat at one and sixpence. This is the easiest way I could possibly attain for procuring monies, and a less quantity they would not agree for, because a fly must be sent purposely for it.

Your loving friend

JOHN WINTHROP.

[The following bill drawn on the colony treasurer by Gov. Winthrop,—order,—and receipt,—are recorded in the first volume of the Colony Records of Lands &c., page 301. These supply the names of the merchants who advanced the money, and show the completion of the payment.]

Laus Deo. In London, A. D. 3d May, 1662.

At or before the thirtieth day of November next ensuing the date hereof, pay this my second Bill, my first and third not being paid, pay unto Mr. Edward Cowes, Giles Silves-

ter, and William Maskeline, or their assignes, at New London in New England, aboard such ship or vessell as the said Edmund, Giles and William shal order to receave the same, Two Thousand Bushels, Winchester measure, of good and well-conditioned wheat, at three shillings and sixpence p bushell, and Twelve hundred Bushells of pease, at two shillings and sixpence p bushell, all which amount vnto Five hundred pounds sterling, being for the like valew receaved of them here and taken vpon the Letter of Credit you gave mee in the behalfe of that Colony, bearinge date the 16 day of June, 1661,* a cobby whereof will accompany this. Make them punctuall payment. Adieu.

JOHN WINTHROP.

To Mr. John Talcot of Hartford,

Treasurer to the Colony of Connecticut.

Subscribed and acknowledged by the said
Jno Winthrop in the presence of me Frederick
Ixem, sole notary publick to and for our
soveraigne Lord the King.

FREDERICK IXEM.

1662 Rs. Angl.

Accepted, November 14, 1662: New England.

p me JOHN TALCOT.

LONDON, *May 21, A. Dom.* 1662.

SIR:—Bee pleased to pay or cause to be paid the quantity of bushels of Wheat and Pease mentioned in this Bill vnto Mr. Phillip Best and Edward Paule, aboard the John and Robert, of this place, and this is the order of

Your Loving friends,

GILES SILVESTER

WILLIAM MASKELINE

EDMUND COWES.

* "The Treasurer is appointed to sign the Lr of Credit, whereby the Governor may be authorized to charge Bills on the Colony to the value of £500 according to former act of the Court."—Col. Rec. of Conn., I. 370.

Received the first of December, 1662, the full of this Bill,

p PHILLIP BEST,
EDWARD PAULE.

Transcribed and extracted out of the originall bill and order and receipt endorsed on the said Bill, and therewith compared, and is a true record of the same, entred this Mrch 6. 166 $\frac{4}{5}$ and attested

p DANIEL CLARK, Secretary.

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